IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A method of manufacturing bent glass sheets, comprising:

bringing glass sheets to their softening temperature, then moving the glass sheets over a shaping bed of advancing elements for advancing the glass sheets which are arranged along a path having a circular arc-shaped profile;

bending the glass sheets in a first direction of advance over the bed according to the radius of curvature of the bed, the glass sheets progressively assuming their shape on entering the shaping bed and over a first shaping zone; and

hardening the glass sheets by tempering or cooling in a second zone of the shaping bed until the glass sheets leave the shaping bed, and then the bent glass sheets thus obtained are recovered,

wherein the shaping bed has a profile extending in a circular arc of more than 90°, a plurality of blow-boxes are disposed along at least a portion of the circular arc, and the portion extends over more than 90° of the circular arc, and

wherein, upon leaving the shaping bed, the hardened glass sheets are moved in a direction opposite that in which they were fed into the bed.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the glass sheets are brought horizontally to the shaping bed, and are also conveyed horizontally on leaving the shaping bed.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the glass sheets are caused to travel along a flat trajectory in a heating furnace so as to bring the glass sheets to the softening temperature, then along the curved trajectory of the shaping bed, tangential to the flat trajectory.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein a prior bending operation is carried out by sagging the glass sheets brought to their softening temperature before causing them to travel over the shaping bed.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the glass sheets are caused to travel over the shaping bed along an ascending path, backing rollers being associated with the advancing elements of the shaping bed in every zone thereof in which the glass sheets need to be retained, and wherein each hardened glass sheet is overturned on release from [[the last]] a roller/backing roller pair associated with the shaping bed, the glass sheets thus overturned being received by a conveyor belt and then taken over by a roller conveyor to be transferred toward an exit point.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein a hardened glass sheet is overturned by causing it, on its release, to be projected under the effect of its speed so that it strikes, by way of its front lower end edge, against an upper part of an idle roller whose axis is parallel to that of the advancing elements of the shaping bed, the hardened glass sheet then tilting about a line of contact with the idle roller under the effect of its weight to drop onto the conveyor belt in the overturned state.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein a hardened glass sheet is overturned by causing it, on its release, to be projected under the effect of its speed so that it is applied, by way of its lower face, to a roller whose axis is parallel to that of the advancing elements of the shaping bed, by blowing air under the sheet in a region situated upstream of its line of contact with the roller to tilt the hardened glass sheet about the roller to drop down onto the conveyor belt in the overturned state.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the glass sheets are caused to travel over the shaping bed along a descending path, backing rollers being associated with the advancing elements of the shaping bed in every zone thereof in which the sheets need to be retained, and

wherein the hardened glass sheets are recovered upon leaving the shaping bed by being deposited on a conveyor belt and then moved on a roller conveyor or by being directly deposited on a roller conveyor transferred toward an exit point.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein perforated or multi-strap conveyor belts are used to cool the glass sheets via blowing in air from underneath onto the lower face of the transported glass sheets.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the advancing elements of the shaping bed include at least one of

rods having an axis of symmetry, including cylindrical, conical and waisted/barreled rods, and rotating on themselves,

or cambered or curved elements that are surrounded by rotating tubular sleeves, shapes of the advancing elements configured to change along the shaping zone of the shaping bed.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the bending is performed with a shaping bed with a radius of curvature of a line parallel to the direction of travel of 1 to 2 meters, and a radius of curvature of a line perpendicular to the direction of travel of 5 meters to infinity.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 29, wherein the glass sheets which have assumed their shape at a temperature of 600 to 700°C are caused to travel.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the glass sheets are subjected to tempering in the tempering zone of the shaping bed by exposing the glass sheets to air at a pressure of 0.98×10^4 Pa to 2.94×10^4 Pa (1000 to 3000 mm water column).

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein air is blown continuously over at least one face of the glass sheets having begun to be shaped and before the glass sheets enter the cooling or tempering zone, under conditions that asymmetrically influence a final concavity of the bent glass sheets by comparison with a concavity that the final bending would have given without the blowing.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the bending operation is carried out on glass sheets having a thickness of 1 to 6 mm.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the distance between the glass sheets on the shaping bed is adjusted to a value of 2 to 20 cm.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the hardened bent glass sheets are obtained at a rate of at least one sheet every four seconds.

Claim 46-55 (Cancelled)

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): Bent glass sheets obtained by the method as defined in claim 29.

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 33 wherein each hardened glass sheet is overturned, relative to a position occupied by the hardened glass sheet as it contacts [[a]] the last of the backing rollers, upon release from [[a]] the last roller/backing roller pair associated with the shaping bed.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising bending the glass sheets in a direction transverse to the first direction.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 57, wherein the overturning is performed via an idle roller whose axis is parallel to that of the advancing elements of the shaping bed, the idle roller arranged at a height such that the hardened glass

sheets ejected from the shaping bed strike, by way of their front lower end edge, against an upper part of the idle roller.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 57, wherein the overturning is performed via a roller whose axis is parallel to that of the advancing elements of the shaping bed, arranged at a height such that the hardened glass sheets ejected from the shaping bed are applied to the roller by way of their lower face, wherein the overturning includes tilting the hardened glass sheet about the roller.